

PASS THE PEN PROJECT

The "Pass The Pen" Project involves prisoners at numerous prisons (as well as some "freeworld" participants) authoring a story one line at a time. One prisoner/participant writes one line and then they "Pass The Pen" to the next person. No direction is given other than to read the previous lines before you add yours. Thus far the Project has circulated at MCI Shirley Medium, The Billerica House of Correction, and is now circulating at MCI Norfolk. Following is a depiction of the story thus far and our plans are to get this effort into every prison in the state of Massachusetts: and possibly beyond.

We are looking for people to get involved in the Pass The Pen Project. You can read what is posted thus far here on the blog and then leave your "sentence" by leaving a comment with your one line.

We are also looking for people who may have ideas about how we can expand this project and get the maximum benefit out of it. Men/women in prison are always seeking positive outlets for their creativity but the stiffling prison environment does all it can to blow those creative fires out. Help us light a fire that will burn with the hope of true redemption!

Pass The Pen was conceived through a collaborative effort between Sarvenaz [REDACTED] and Timothy Joseph Muise. Sarvi's compassion for the plight of the incarcerated inspires Tim to use the arts to bring hope to those held in such hopeless places.

Let us know what you think of the Pass The Pen Project. Give us your thoughts and ideas. We want prison to be a place where the incarcerated can build each other up and community involvement is essential in that equation. 200 plus years of American prisons have taught us that the jailer will never be in the business of helping the jailed: it just does not work that way. The prisoner must help the prisoner: it is the only solution.

Following you will find the first segment of Pass The Pen created in MCI Shirley Medium and the Billerica House of Correction. The story is alive and there will be more to come.

SUPPORT "PASS THE PEN"

LEAVE YOUR ONE LINE BY LEAVING A COMMENT

To get involved directly please contact:

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*** SUPPORT PASS THE PEN ***

Pass The Pen

Medium
MCI Shirley ~~Maximum~~ Security, October 2013

Tim Muise:

We fight because our lives can only have meaning if we strive to better ourselves and the world.

Shawn F

There is no such thing as Great Men, only great challenges that ordinary people must rise to face.

Joe L:

Sometimes it takes great courage to face the inner fears that prevent us from doing great deeds.

Mike S

Because out of challenges, grow miracles and still we rise, like the tide that raises all boats.

Ken S

It has been in the low tides, boat grounded, earth with the stench of death, that we are forced to examine what is. We find self, we find purpose... courage exposed, meaning manifested.

John L

The fight for forbearance is the foundation we build on with our tools we like to call perception.

Frank Q

With faith is a great challenge that can help win most fights and wars of the world.

Scott B

Time is the fire in which we burn and as the fire burns we become brighter.

M.S.:

Just because you may have failed at times doesn't make you a failure and because you made mistakes doesn't make you a mistake, but a man God created for greatness.

E.A.:

Nature is the most powerful thing on Earth and human nature is the most influential force on Earth. It is Human to want to succeed as well as natural to use the resources around you to do so.

Bill D

Miserando Atque Eligend = Lowly yet Chosen Fortitude
Vincimus = by endurance we conquer In Strenth and
Struggle - Bill the Barber.

John M

God created me very differently, to be very happy and gay, to guide others with the cloud by day and with light from the fire by night!

Aaron W.

The essence of growth is measured through time, in order for one to grow they may first have to embrace the conditions they're in and take the "time". To ACCEPT who they truly are as a man and human being.

H. E

The power in ones abilities relies on the focus of ones skill, based upon ones perceptions of what's real.

Tim Muise

...And so, collectively, we do our share as individuals as to make the impossible, possible asking each one to do the impossible, to bear...

Billerica House of Corrections, Nov. 19, 2013

J.S:

I am prepared to meet my maker, although I do not think that my maker is prepared to go through the great ordeal in which it is to meet ME!

Tristan S

No pain is forever, but the thought of heartache could torture you for an eternity! Blood does not create family, loyalty does!

J.L.:

Don't make the mistake not to learn, so learn from your mistake.

D. P.

Time is not being wasted, another experience is being gained. The things that come to those who wait, maybe the things left by those who got there first. If you can't see the bright side of life, polish the dull side.

Manny G:

They say, "It ain't a hood story, but it's my story." I can't guarantee all Good is gonna come out the Hood, but if you heard my name In the Hood, I can guarantee it's Good.